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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Weather Bureau—Bureau of Agricultural Economics

REPORT OF WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS IN MONTANA
For the Week Ending Tuesday, September 1, 1936.

Issued jointly by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates and the Weather Bureau.
Offices: Fourth Floor, Federal Office Building, Helena, Montana.

Helena - The week ending September 1 was somewhat drier and warmer than the preceding week, although night temperatures averaged lower, bringing light frosts again to some western and extreme northeastern localities. Showers ranging from light to moderate amounts fell over most of the State but entirely missed some areas in western, central, and extreme southeastern Montana. Weather conditions were generally favorable for harvesting of grain crops, now complete except for some late irrigated sections. Fall plowing and seeding have started at widely separated sections of the State, but are generally awaiting more favorable moisture conditions. Some little improvement is now reported in range and pasture conditions in counties where August rainfall was sufficient to start some new grass or stimulate thistle growth, but on the whole the range and pasture situation in the entire eastern two-thirds of the State is still very serious with little likelihood of any general improvement this season. Cattle and sheep ^{movements} have continued quite heavy, and with sheep and lambs beginning to come off summer ranges, a generally stronger market movement of livestock is expected to develop. A larger than usual proportion of old ewes in fall sheep shipments is probable due to the shortage of fall pastures and winter range feed. The hay and feed situation continues to be reported as critical in the dryland areas although in the irrigated valleys hay crops are a little better than were expected a month ago. Much of the irrigated hay crop controlled by stockmen will undoubtedly be held to restore depleted reserves so that the amount of hay for sale from the more favored areas will be smaller than would appear. In many eastern and central Montana counties, much thistle hay will be put up for winter feed. Other roughage in the form of corn and sweet sorghums will be saved in eastern Montana for winter feed.

While some fair grain crops are reported in the western third of the State the grain harvest in the important eastern two-thirds of Montana will probably not exceed that of such a similar drouth year of 1931. Some counties in this area are reported as producing less than next year's seed requirements in case of spring wheat, oats, and barley. The sugar beet crop, while spotted, is promising a larger production than last year. Potatoes are fair to good in irrigated areas but very poor in the dryland sections, with a poor quality crop now indicated in the important Flathead area. The bean crop harvest is now in progress, and will probably make a fair crop on irrigated lands with very little dry-land acreage for harvest.

Less mention of grasshoppers has been noted during the past two weeks, but web-worms are still reported hatching out in some north-central areas.

Weekly Temperature and Precipitation Data

Station:	Temperature		Total Precipitation		Sunshine
	Highest	Lowest	This week.	Since Apr.1	Percent of Possible
Billings	94	48	0.01	5.08	*
Bozeman	85	43	0.11	5.94	*
Cut Bank	88	41	0.33	8.78	*
Glasgow	94	49	0.29	4.45	*
Glendive	98	47	0.12	5.74	*
Great Falls	94	42	0.02	4.63	*
Havre	96	46	0.17	4.05	86
HELENA	88	45	T	5.54	79
Kalispell	88	42	0.02	4.36	80
Lewistown	92	40	0.19	7.45	*
Malta	96	46	0.20	3.98	*
Miles City	96	48	T	2.89	76
Missoula	94	44	0.20	4.99	82
Poplar	95	45	0.22	5.15	*

*No data.

Series 1936, No. 22.
Helena, Montana.
September 2, 1936.

W. E. Maughan, Weather Bureau.
Jay G. Diamond, Division of Crop and Livestock
Estimates.

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W. E. Maughan, Weather Bureau.
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ROOSEVELT: Cooler weather with some rains in the eastern half of the county.

Total rainfall at Culbertson .35 inch. Farmers harvesting wheat, thistles and corn for feed and a few find that they will have enough feed to winter a normal number of cattle, but the majority must reduce their herds to subsistence units. Several herds will be sold out completely. Some cattle will be moved to out-of-state feeding grounds. Cattle market movement light, but it is expected that more will go out in the next two weeks.

ROSEBUD: No rains during week; weather cool. Third cutting alfalfa and sugar beets growing well. Some winter wheat being seeded, with the expectations of later moisture. Livestock movement has slowed up somewhat. A considerable number of both cattle and sheep will have to be moved before winter. Dry land farmers mostly working on reservoir and road projects.

SANDERS: Continued clear and very dry. No precipitation with exception of a few light local showers. Grain threshing generally completed, with general good yields. Some shriveled grain from high temperature and premature ripening. Second cutting hay harvest completed with good yields under irrigation. Poor outlook for yields of clover and alfalfa seed. Seed pea harvest completed with only fair yields account of high temperatures and low moisture. Livestock in very good condition. Fat lambs moving to market well finished. Extreme fire hazard in National Forest. A number of forest fires quickly under control.

SHERIDAN: Local showers over county; light frosts in low areas. Most of the wheat has been harvested; some flax standing in fields. Corn ripe enough for seed in many fields. Other stands of fodder are good. Millet has made rapid growth on July moisture. Feed being gathered is of low quality - about 50 per cent thistles. Labor mostly on WPA projects.

STILLWATER: Weather considerably cooler the past week, with sugar beets and alfalfa making good growth. With grasshoppers practically gone and with scattered showers, crops such as sugar beets and alfalfa are making good growth. Grass is making some growth in sections that have received rain. Livestock in fair condition. Still considerable movement of stock out of the county to market. Weather conditions will determine if more sheep go out for fall pasture and wintering. WPA taking care of surplus labor.

TETON: Very cool and no precipitation the past week. The rains of last week did not seem to revive any grass except in a small area in northwestern part of county where precipitation was heaviest. Combining of crops completed. Threshing now in progress in the irrigated sections. Grain crops are damaged considerably due to the extreme heat of the summer. Yields are below normal. Pea threshing pretty well along with very disappointing yields. Potatoes seem to be pretty fair in irrigated sections. Cattle shipments still heavy in the county, especially of the smaller herds and farm herds.

TOOLE: Weather cool and some rain. Southern and southeastern sections of county have received no benefit from rains. Northern two-thirds of county has had good moisture during past two weeks. Recent rains will enable a good many producers to hold their stock. A particular benefit to sheepmen as they can hold lambs until October with the new grass.

VALLEY: The past week has been characterized by much cooler weather than we have had any time for the past 100 days with a few local showers scattered throughout the county. In areas where showers occurred in the same localities as a week ago, some thistle growth started. All harvesting is completed and farmers are looking for work. Even though few local showers were received, it has not helped the water situation any and sheepmen are hauling water to the stock. Some hay is being shipped into the county for winter feed. Stock is moving to market. Very few as yet have moved to winter feed.

WHEATLAND: No moisture this week except in vicinity of Harlowton heavy rain and hail fell. Range is somewhat improved due to late rains.

WIBAUX: Cool weather during the week. In northern part of the county and scattered parts of south section of the county heavy rains accompanied by hail reported during the week. Rain is coming too late to help feed or range conditions. Cattle marketing continues steady. Some fall rye will be planted if seed is available.

YELLOWSTONE: Cool nights with warm days. In irrigated districts, bean harvest in full swing. No threshing of beans as yet, however. Fall plowing pretty well under way. Cutting of third crop of alfalfa will begin in some localities next week. In non-irrigated districts, practically all fall plowing done, with very little fall seeding of wheat due to lack of moisture. No change in livestock or range grass situation.

REPORT OF WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS IN MONTANA
For the Week Ending Tuesday, September 8, 1936.

Issued jointly by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates and the Weather Bureau.
Offices: Fourth Floor, Federal Office Building, Helena, Montana.

The first part of the week was rather cool and showery; the last part was somewhat warmer and mostly fair. Good rains wet soils to a depth of several inches over many western, south-central, and northeastern districts, but amounts were mostly too light to be of much benefit in the southeastern districts and much of the north-central section. What little frost was reported occurred mostly outside of the crop-growing areas in the west and north. Heavy hail fell in some of the south-central counties, but did little damage to crops because of their matured condition, or because most of the hail fell in areas where little or no crops are grown.

While delaying late harvesting and haying, and interfering with threshing progress, the rains were highly beneficial to plowing and seeding operations. Less than normal seeding of winter grains has been done to date in the State, but increased activity in this direction is expected over much of the State following this week's rains. Practically no seeding of winter grains has been done in many eastern districts, partly because of difficulty in securing seed supplies, but mostly because of the extremely dry condition of the seed-beds. Some dry seed-beds are being planted in the east, where present conditions preclude any possibility of immediate germination, and where good rains must follow any germination if growth is to be sustained through the usually drier months of October and November. Early seedings of winter wheat and rye are up in some of the western and central districts, but stands in many instances are reported patchy.

Harvesting of grain has been completed with the exception of flax, and this crop is expected to mature safely before frost. Late haying consists mostly of the third crop of alfalfa, much of which is already in the stack. The third crop of alfalfa from irrigated tracts in the southeast has generally yielded better than previous cuttings because of more favorable growing conditions and the lesser damage from insects. Sugar beets have continued to improve in the north and east. All fields are showing signs of maturing, with harvesting expected to start in the Milk River Valley next week. Harvesting of beans and peas has been completed with returns generally reported good. Corn, millet, and cane are being cut, with a number of eastern fields yielding better than expected, and generally ranging from fair to good. Some millet will require another two weeks of favorable growing weather. A little seed corn is being gathered, although most of the crop will be used as fodder. Rains helped potatoes. There are few good fields of potatoes outside of the irrigated sections.

Ranges continued unchanged except for some further greening up in central and northeastern districts. The recent rains will be of some help where grass is still green, but there is little prospect for green fall feed now in the southeast where only about 15 to 20 per cent of the normal livestock population can possibly be wintered safely with the present available supply of feed. Thistles continued to make some additional growth in the east and will be utilized for hay where they have reached sufficient height to permit cutting.

The condition of livestock is also unchanged. Movement continues though generally in much decreased volume. Fall movement of lambs to markets is expected to start in the next two weeks.

Weekly Temperature and Precipitation Data

Station.	Temperature		Total Precipitation		Sunshine
	Highest	Lowest	This week.	Since Apr. 1	Percent of Possible
Billings	90	52	0.26	5.34	*
Bozeman	80	42	0.40	6.34	*
Cut Bank	74	33	0.24	9.72	*
Glasgow	97	49	0.43	4.88	*
Glendive	98	52	T	5.74	*
Great Falls	83	49	0.46	5.09	*
Havre	86	48	0.07	4.11	72
HELENA	79	43	0.46	6.00	61
Kalispell	81	46	0.89	5.27	40
Lewistown	81	45	0.21	7.66	*
Malta	96	43	0.05	4.03	*
Miles City	94	54	0.09	2.98	76
Missoula	82	48	0.85	5.84	50
Poplar	95	49	0.66	5.81	*

*No data.

The Following County Summaries of Crop Conditions for the Week Ending Sept. 5, 1936 are furnished through the courtesy of Director J. C. Taylor, Montana State Extension Service.

BEAVERHEAD: Cloudy with intermittent rains and electrical storms; light frosts; days and nights much cooler. Second crop of alfalfa practically up; pea crop being threshed; range feed plentiful. A little activity in the lamb market; some selling around 7¢ to 7½¢.

BIG HORN: Light scattered showers during the week, but not heavy enough to improve the drouth conditions which have prevailed all summer. Warmer weather has characterized the week. Winter wheat farmers are waiting for moisture before seeding their winter wheat. Some winter wheat has, however, been planted in parts of the county. The valley crops are suffering from a shortage of irrigation water, especially in the Little Horn and part of the Big Horn Valley. Livestock conditions remain about the same as last week. Stockmen are hoping for early rains to improve the range and permit them to hold a larger number of their cattle over the winter.

BLAINE: One light shower during the past week. Weather moderately cool with generally clear, sunshiny days. Crops on the irrigated land are making very satisfactory growth. Web worms destroying thistles that are being put up for hay. Threshing in the irrigated section partially completed. Livestock continuing to move to market in volumes. Some stock shipped to western part of the State during the week for winter feed.

CARBON: Light rains reported in the Belfry area on Monday. Temperatures somewhat cooler throughout the county. Threshing of beans started in the Clarks Fork Valley area. Second cuttings of alfalfa being stacked; light yields reported. Considerable livestock still being moved to market.

CUSTER - POWDER RIVER: Third cutting of irrigated alfalfa nearly all in the stack. Yields generally better than previous cuttings as grasshopper damage was very slight and growing conditions more favorable. Sugar beets will be matured before frost. Corn, millet, and cane now being harvested with fair to good yields. Some interest in dry land areas in seeding winter wheat and rye, but lack of moisture and no local supply of seed is preventing activity. Cattle continue to move out. Stockmen are cutting down to heifers and keeping only what can be safely wintered. Generally feed supplies are sufficient to winter only 15 to 20 per cent of normal livestock population. Lambs will move to market in another ten days. Most sheepmen planning to winter a fair portion of their holdings, but will likely liquidate on 5 and 6 year old ewes.

DAWSON: Seasonal throughout the week, with some districts getting good showers. Corn being cut where fields justify, yielding some feed. Otherwise operations practically at stand still. Rains within past several weeks have stimulated grass growth in some sections, giving sheep a small amount of grazing. Movement of stock out of county continues at approximately a normal rate.

FALLON - CARTER: No precipitation. Ground so dry that nothing is growing. Crop and feed conditions remain the same as for the past few weeks. A few fields of corn have matured for fodder and in a few scattered areas Russian Thistles are being put up for hay. In most portions of the counties no feed will be put up. There will be practically no winter wheat seeded this fall unless conditions change immediately. Up to this fall, many farmers have seeded winter wheat in the fall even though conditions were dry, but this fall there is no possible chance for any growth unless climatic conditions change greatly. Approximately 80% of all cattle in Fallon and Carter Counties have been sold or shipped out. All lambs have been sold and delivered at prices ranging from earlier contracted prices of 7 to 7½¢ and prices up to 6½¢ for spot delivery. Approximately 40% of all ewes in the two counties have been sold or shipped out at very greatly reduced prices. It is estimated that within the next six weeks another 40% will be moved out.

FLATHEAD: Showers over the county during the middle of the week. Temperatures generally lower and some areas have suffered from frosts. Potatoes on irrigated land good. Some dry-land potatoes also fine, but the majority of dry-land potatoes are growing out; although, should severe frosts hold off, a fair crop may develop. Some seeding of fall wheat taking place and some early sown fall grains are showing up very patchy. Most farmers are holding off seeding for more rains. Threshing is practically over, except for oats threshing in the northern end of the valley. Livestock condition good.

GALLATIN: Cloudy, with intermittent showers throughout the week. Somewhat cooler. Winter wheat seeding still continues. Harvesting of oats and barley is well under way, with some sections in the county having completed harvesting of grain crops. There is a third cutting of hay on some of the irrigated sections of the county. A few inquiries still coming in relative to available hay and pasture in the county.

GARFIELD - PETROLEUM: No precipitation. Grass growing fair in Petroleum County, especially around Winnett. Crop conditions same as previously reported. Livestock movement continued.

GLACIER: Heavy showers; cool but no frosts. Heavy dews; no wind. Still some haying and threshing to be taken care of which has been delayed by showers and dews. Range grass making good growth especially around Cut Bank. South of Browning, grass is still poor as much less rain was received in that area. Southeast and northwest portions of county received the heaviest August rains. Heavy infestation of sugar beet web-worms in some localities, but are doing no damage except to late gardens. Summerfallow ground weedy. Lambs from Washington summered here most all gone to slaughter. Native feeder lambs not yet moving. Some calves marketed. Livestock in good condition.

HILL: .08 inch precipitation for the past week. Harvesting completed. No seeding of winter wheat to date. Ranges in poor condition. Late rains not causing much improvement. Livestock in fair condition. Labor situation balanced.

JUPITH BASIN: Some precipitation the past week. In general the growing conditions for winter wheat are much improved. Some winter wheat has been sown and is up. Ranges in most of the county are improving rapidly; grass is green. In the Highwood area north of Geyser the range is still brown with no relief from the drouth conditions since recent rains have not favored that area. Crop conditions unchanged. Shipments of livestock still going out. A large percentage of the stockmen have shipped in good shape by loading them for market before the grass became too short.

LAKE: About 1/3 inch of rain fell Wednesday, soaking up summerfallow, refreshing pastures, but interfered with haying and grain harvest. Grain and second hay harvest about completed. Third cutting alfalfa started. Livestock normal except "sleeping sickness" troublesome among horses; not many deaths up to this date.

MADISON - JEFFERSON: Light frosts on upper Madison during the past week. General showers have prevailed throughout the two counties during the past week, resulting in cool days and nights, but no frost damage as yet in the cultivated areas. The rain has been sufficient in some areas to be of help to the fall pasture and range, but has interfered with haying and harvest operations. Most of the seed crop of Astragalus Ruby has been cut and is in the swath or shock. Hay is still being offered for sale at \$10.00 to \$12.00 per ton. Little or no inquiry for hay and range during the past week has come from outside stockmen. Livestock conditions are generally favorable throughout the counties.

MISSOULA: Cloudy and rainy all week. Several good showers during week. About one-half inch precipitation. Rain has delayed both haying and threshing. About 85% of threshing completed. Some third crop hay yet to be cut. Sugar beet crop benefitted by rains. Fall plowing starting. Seeding of winter wheat on fallow land is starting. Rain will improve all pastures. Livestock in good condition. Some surplus hay for sale in the county.

MUSSELSHELL - GOLDEN VALLEY: Hard local showers reported in several localities, reaching almost cloudburst proportions. Conditions for winter wheat seeding somewhat improved. No change in livestock situation.

PARK: Showers have been received in most parts of the county this week. Rain has slowed up the harvesting of grain and the second cutting of hay. Harvesting of grain is approximately 75 per cent completed in the county. The stacking of the second cutting of hay is well under way. The yields of grain and hay are far below normal. Combining is progressing rather slowly because of the rains. Livestock are in fair condition. Fall rains are improving the fall pasture to a certain extent in some localities.

PHILLIPS: No precipitation and moderately cool weather. Wheat yields under irrigation generally disappointing, averaging about 75% of normal. Feed grains and corn fair to good. Sugar beets making satisfactory growth. Stands indicate about a 10-ton average left for harvest. Condition of livestock ranging from poor to good. Approximately 40% of stock shipped either to pasture or to market. 3900 ewe lambs shipped out to pasture under drouth rates this week.

PONDERA: Shock threshing delayed by rains; all straw being conserved for feed reserves. Approximately 80% of the harvest is completed, with yields on dry land varying greatly in the same communities from nothing to seven or eight bushels, in the extreme western end of the county. Some oats and barley on a few irrigated farms yet uncut due to green stage. It appears that more feed crops will be available than first anticipated due to liquidation of cattle caused by the high cost of feed. Beet tops are selling from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per acre, depending upon the stand. Practically all beet tops have been purchased or contracted for by this time. Condition of native pastures considerably improved since the rains, especially in the western portion of the county and around the edges of the county. Some livestock moving into the county to be wintered from Chouteau County, and additional requests received from about 75 farmers in drouth counties. No particular forced liquidation at the present time, except those involved in credit relationships and where the cost of feed will exceed the \$12.00 limit on hay.

PRAIRIE: Weather has been warm, although the nights were quite cool. No precipitation. No crops to harvest. Thistles not making much growth. Some farmers are disking them out to put up for hay, as they are too short for mowing. Shipments of livestock have tapered off somewhat this past week although it is expected that shipping will be resumed in the near future.

RICHLAND: Fair weather throughout the week with only slight precipitation in scattered portions of the county. Harvesting of corn in both dry-land and irrigated sections in full swing. Beet crop doing very well and it is expected that considerable of the loss that occurred from beetles and grasshoppers early in the season will be largely overcome by the prevailing good weather conditions. A number of sheepmen from outside points coming in to buy feed in the valley for wintering their livestock. Cattle continuing to move to market and it is expected that quite large numbers of cattle will be shipped during the next two weeks.

ROOSEVELT: Cooler weather but dry. Small grain harvest completed and corn cutting under way. Some seed corn being harvested. Ranges in east end of county improved. More cattle moving to market.

ROSEBUD: Temperatures somewhat higher during week. No precipitation. Sugar beets made good growth. Second cutting of early planted sudan, sorghum and millet harvesting under way during week. Late planted millet making fair growth, and will make some feed if frost holds off another two or three weeks. Some corn that survived insects, pests, ripening up in good shape. No improvement in winter feed situation. Little prospect for green fall feed. Cattle moved out of the south country in larger volume during week. Sheep remaining in county in fairly good condition. Some old ewes for sale.

SANDERS: Cloudy and cool with occasional light rains. Grain harvest completed. Second cutting of hay in stack. Harvesting of clover and alfalfa seed in progress with apparent low yields. Summer fallow generally too dry for germination of fall seeding. Livestock in good condition. Some shipments of grass fat and feeder cattle going to market.

SHERIDAN: Weather has been hot for the season; will assist in ripening corn and flax before frosts. Farmers are still gathering thistle and stubble for hay. All seed that can be picked up is also being saved. Some corn is producing seed and will provide an important source of income for next spring. Some disease of livestock reported. In a few isolated cases the animals have dropped dead in a few hours. Cases have been reported to State Veterinarian. Grasshoppers and cutworm moths laying eggs; also some sugar beet web worm moths.

STILLWATER: Cool the greater part of the week. Two showers, totalling .82 inch moisture, at Columbus; considerable hail Thursday night in Flaherty Flat section. Cool weather generally favorable for alfalfa and beet growth. Small grains, such as beans and peas, being harvested. Rain which fell Friday should benefit range to limited extent in those areas receiving it. Livestock in fair condition. Stock still going out of county but marketing lighter than for past six weeks. Outside hay could be moved into county at a \$15.00 figure, but with present asking price of \$17.00 and \$18.00 there is little demand for hay and most stockmen will ship.

SWEET GRASS: Weather has been partially cloudy and cooler for the past week, with scattered showers. Threshing is completed and haying is nearing completion. Sheep are beginning to move from the range, and are in just fair condition. Livestock marketing of all classes continues. Insect infestation still serious in spots, but as a whole has disappeared.

TOOLE: Light rains over northern two-thirds of county this week. Southern one-third dry. Practically all crops have been harvested. Many fields infested with webworms during the past week in many cases taking thistles before they can be put up for feed. Rains have materially helped grasses in northern section. Some movement of livestock during past week and this is expected to increase from now on. Producers will sell down to feed supplies, hay and feed being considered too high to make wintering profitable.

VALLEY: No moisture the past week. Considerably hotter than the week previous. A little third-cutting of alfalfa scattered over the irrigated portion of the county. No fall work being done in the fields due to the dry condition of the soil. The amount of moisture that fell a week ago is of no benefit in assisting the fall field work. Livestock shipments are increasing every week.

WHEATLAND: Weather cooler this week with considerable rain generally over the county. Good rain in eastern part of county last of week. Grass in county is fairly good due to recent rains. Range conditions improved. Some cattle shipments reported.

WIBAUX: Warm weather during the week. Scattered showers in county. Considerable cattle losses in county from cocklebur and cherry poisoning. Stockmen claim hay prices too high in proportion to value of stock, therefore cattle will be sold instead of buying hay. All thistles available are being put up. Thistles and concentrates will be the main ration for livestock.

YELLOWSTONE: Quite warm first part of week; cool nights. Rain Thursday and Friday nights. Precipitation .10 inch. Practically all beans harvested and stacked, but threshing not started yet. Third cutting of alfalfa will start next week. Farmers busy with fall plowing and irrigating of beets. No change in livestock condition.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Weather Bureau—Bureau of Agricultural Economics

REPORT OF WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS IN MONTANA
For the Week Ending Tuesday, September 15, 1936.

Issued jointly by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates and the Weather Bureau.
Offices: Fourth Floor, Federal Office Building, Helena, Montana.

The first part of the week ending September 15th was warm and dry, and the last part was cool and showery. The showers were too light to relieve the extremely dry conditions in the southeast, but in other sections were of considerable benefit to ranges and pastures, beets, potatoes, and late growing feed crops. Snow appeared on many of the higher ranges, and frost occurred locally and was slightly damaging to tender stuff in the western districts.

Fall irrigation continued, and plowing progressed except in the dry non-irrigated eastern districts. Improved soil conditions as a result of recent rains increased seeding operations, although a scarcity of good winter grain seed hindered in general, and lack of moisture for germination held back operations in the dryland fields in the east. Haying continued in the few scattered localities where a little wild hay and the third crop of alfalfa remained. There was some cutting of Russian thistles for hay in the east. Late threshing of grain and beans progressed. A little seeding of crested wheat grass was reported.

Late growing crops have advanced toward maturity with negligible damage from frosts so far this season. Cutting of late forage crops on irrigated lands is under way. The cooler weather has increased the sugar content of sugar beets. Early tests of the crop in the north, where pulling will be started on the 17th, have shown a sugar content slightly under average. The general outlook for the sugar beet crop, however, is one equal to or even better than last year. Pulling of the beet crop in other districts will start from ten days to two weeks later. A good yield of potatoes on irrigated lands is indicated. Digging was started in a few early fields, but frosts are needed to reduce the vines. Potatoes have improved to a fair crop prospect in the northeast, where a month ago conditions indicated little or no yield. Rains have helped the germination of winter wheat and rye in the west and north, with the result that the crop is reported coming up to a better stand. Present conditions over much of the State should give the winter grain crop a better start than it had last year. Rains are badly needed, however, for the eastern section. Apples are maturing, but the crop is light. Much damage was done to apples in the Bitterroot Valley by summer hailstorms.

Ranges and pastures showed slight improvement in the west, and west of the Divide are reported normal for this time of the season. They are still poor in the east. Grass continues green and growing a little in some central and northeastern districts, with some second growth now curing and offering a little winter feed in Glacier County.

Livestock have maintained about the same condition as the last several weeks. Calves are showing the effect of lack of sufficient feed in some drouth areas, and some lambs have been rejected by buyers because of failure to put on sufficient weight. Movement of livestock has slowed up or stopped in most of the drouth area, inasmuch as the bulk of the livestock with the exception of the lambs and ewes held for fall delivery has been disposed of. Sheep and cattle are moving off the higher ranges.

Weekly Temperature and Precipitation Data

	Temperature		Total Precipitation		Sunshine
	Highest	Lowest	This Week.	Since Apr. 1	Percent of Possible
Billings	83	38	0.32	5.66	*
Bozeman	82	27	0.12	6.46	*
Cut Bank	72	22	0.07	9.09	*
Glasgow	84	36	0.00	4.88	*
Glendive	90	41	0.37	6.11	*
Great Falls	84	35	0.23	5.32	*
Harre	86	36	0.04	4.15	80
HELENA	81	31	0.18	6.18	66
Kalispell	76	34	0.11	5.38	62
Lewistown	83	31	0.01	7.67	*
Malta	85	38	0.03	4.06	*
Miles City	92	42	0.20	3.18	68
Missoula	78	34	0.17	6.01	72
Poplar	83	38	0.00	5.81	*

*No data.

Series - 1936 - No. 24.
Helena, Montana,
September 16, 1936.

W. E. Maughan, Weather Bureau,
Jay G. Diamond, Division of Crop and Livestock
Estimates

The Following County Summaries of Crop Conditions for the Week Ending Sept. 12, 1936 are furnished through the courtesy of Director J. C. Taylor, Montana State Extension Service.

BEAVERHEAD: A few scattered showers of short duration were received during the week; nights were cooler and days somewhat warmer than last week. Threshing well under way; second crop of hay up, with exception of some wild hay sections. Little activity in lamb market; few feeder buyers here.

BLAINE: Harvesting of small grains in the irrigated valley is practically completed; some threshing being done with fair yields reported. Sugar beets making rapid growth. Indications are that yields will be equal to or better than last year. Third cutting of alfalfa now under way, with very satisfactory yields reported. Web worms have done some damage to sugar beets. Livestock continues to move to market in large numbers. Both sheep and cattle have been shipped during the past week to other areas to be wintered. Farmers are continuing to put up Russian thistles for winter roughage. Web worms are now doing damage in the north end of the county.

ELD HORN: General growing conditions have been fair, especially where an ample supply of irrigation water has been applied. Non-irrigated crops are all harvested. The third crop of alfalfa in the valley is being cut and stacked. Late beans are harvested and preparations are being made for the sugar beet harvest which will probably start about the last week in September. The beet crop is showing unusual improvement during the last few weeks. Livestock is in about the same condition as it has been for a number of weeks. A large number of cattle are being shipped during past week, chiefly to the eastern markets. More moisture is needed to improve the seeding ground for winter wheat.

CARBON: Temperature cooler for the past week, with one or two fairly warm days. Very heavy rains reported in the western and southern section of the county Thursday and Friday. Many bridges were washed out and water was over the highways in many places. The rain came in a manner of a down-pour and for this reason only a small amount of moisture was absorbed. Threshing of beans in progress; beans are yielding fair but not grading as well as formerly. Some second cutting of hay has been harvested. Corn now being harvested. Heavy runs of cattle were moved to market this week.

CHOUTEAU: Continued dry weather throughout most of the county, with the exception of a light shower covering the north 3/4 of the county and a rain approximating 2/3 inch which covered the Highwood area on Saturday evening. Recent moisture tests indicate a variety of sub-soil moisture, varying from no sub-soil moisture in clean summer fallow to as high as 2 1/2 feet, the better soil types having more moisture. Fall seeding now under way, but farmers generally are delaying this operation awaiting more moisture. Livestock men are rapidly moving their stock to meet feed requirements.

CUSTER - POWDER RIVER: Continued cooler weather. Trace of precipitation. Harvest of annual forage crops under irrigation practically completed with fairly satisfactory yields. Beets are near enough maturity to avoid suffering from lack of water. Water supply in Tongue River ditch practically gone, and being parceled out to users. No seeding of winter grain crops in dry land thus far. More cattle moving from the Custer National Forest area; other regions nearly cleaned up. Lambs will be delivered within the next week, after which a large volume of older ewes will be for sale. Prospects better for wintering sheep than cattle because of short range feed.

DANIELS: Farmers gathering all feed possible; many putting up thistles. A few cars of upland hay shipped in from Minnesota and North Dakota at \$15.50 f.o.b. track, Daniels County points. Livestock still in fair shape. Steady movement to market.

DAWSON: Weather conditions somewhat cooler, with some winds and a small amount of rain; not enough to do any good, however. Most of the crops are harvested now, with a little late haying being in progress now, mostly thistles. Stock movement from the county is almost at a standstill now. A few of the stockmen are shipping in feed or shipping their cattle to pastures elsewhere.

FERGUS: Winter wheat in some sections being seeded, with not any too much moisture for seeding in any part of the county. Sections around Denton, Everson, and Coffee Creek, which did not get in on the rain a week ago, are very dry for seeding. Most favorable seeding conditions for any place in the county are Hoasac-Barvers area and the section south and east of Moore. Most of the winter wheat harvested this year was light in weight, and for that reason good seed wheat is not too plentiful. If weather conditions permit seeding of ordinary acreage of winter wheat, it is likely that some seed will have to be shipped in.

Livestock continues to move out at the rate of 75 to 100 cars a week. Most sheep from this area have been moved to western part of the State for finishing lambs and for wintering. Some cattle were also moved; however, most cattle are going to market because they feel they cannot pay a high price for hay or cannot afford to bring them out to feed and take them back in the spring.

FALLON - CARTER: Precipitation .48 inch from local scattered showers. This precipitation, however, is not general over the two counties. Growing conditions remain the same as previous. Weather cool with considerable wind. Crop conditions remain the same as for the past month. There have been sufficient rains

(Continued on Page 2.)

FALLON - CARTER: - (Cont'd.) in northeastern Fallon County to start a little grass, but in the balance of the territory there is no growth. Most cattlemen have at this time sold out, shipped out, or made arrangements for their stock for this winter. Practically all lambs are gone and sheep men are disposing of ewes at the present time at greatly reduced prices.

FLATHEAD: Getting cooler, with a fair shower last week. Some slight frost effects showing all over the valley. Pastures and hay fields are greening up. A few potatoes being dug to supply immediate demand. Main potato crop not yet frost-killed down; although some fields have suffered about a 5% frost. Some fall wheat has been seeded following the rain of last week. A few seedings of crested wheat grass, now being done.

GALLATIN: Clear; somewhat cooler; light local showers. Grain harvest continues with a large percentage of the wheat threshed and oats and barley threshing well under way. Some third cutting of alfalfa being cut and stacked. Winter wheat being seeded in nearly all areas although a few are holding back because of dry seed beds. Some fall plowing being done on irrigated ground. Some range lambs sold, but delivery will not be made until later. Some range ewes available for pulp fattening.

PETROLEUM - GARFIELD: Total precipitation .39 inch.; will greatly improve the winter range condition. Crops completely abandoned. Remaining livestock in fairly good condition.

GLACIER: Local showers; no wind; very little frost. Harvesting of all hay and grain practically completed. Farmers gathering straw and other substitutes for hay. New grass is curing and will furnish some winter feed. All livestock in good condition. Native lambs starting to market; several carloads shipped today.

HILL: A trace of precipitation for the past week. Cooler weather has helped the water supply in the streams. Ranges are getting shorter. Livestock still moving out to market.

JUDITH BASIN: Heavy shower in the western end of the county on September 4. The benefits were not as great as they would have been had the rain come more slowly; however, the general conditions over the county are very much improved. Grass is green in most sections, and winter wheat, which has already been seeded, has come up in good shape. Very little change in crop conditions. Only a few scattered instances where grain has not been threshed. It appears that winter wheat will get a much better start this year than it did a year ago. The normal shipping time for livestock in the Judith Basin is during August and September. Some stock are still moving to market; however, the shipments will be lighter from now on. The Soil Conservation Service is taking care of the surplus labor and farmers who are in need of work.

LAKE: - One-fourth inch rainfall last week-end over most of the valley. Temperatures cooler but no frosts. Threshing in progress. Some hay being put up. Beets looking good. Some fall seeding of wheat started. Soil conditions dry. Livestock in good condition. Normal marketing.

LEWIS & CLARK - BROADWATER: Weather has been very favorable for fall harvesting and threshing in both counties. Potato harvest will start soon in Lewis & Clark County and a good yield is in prospect. Grain crops even on irrigated land in Lewis & Clark County yielding lower than anticipated due to poor filling. Livestock situation generally unchanged. Some stock will likely be shipped out to feed this coming week from Lewis & Clark County; orders are going in for high protein concentrates in both counties, but more particularly in Lewis & Clark.

MISSOULA: Warm days and cool nights all week. Excellent fall weather. No precipitation. Haying practically completed. Grain harvest practically completed. Threshing 85% to 90% completed. Sugar beets still making good growth. Prospects far better than average crop. Some potatoes being dug. Fields reported better than expected earlier in the season. Apple crop is light and considerable damage was done by hail during the summer. There is quite a bit of fall plowing, and some fall seeding of winter wheat. Ranges about normal for this time of the year. Cattle in good condition.

MUSSELSHELL - GOLDEN VALLEY: During the week we have had rain in varying proportions covering both counties. Prospects for winter wheat seeding improving as a result of recent rains. Rains have brought on a new growth of grass in many localities; continued rain and warm weather would be a great benefit to livestock people.

PARK: Local showers were received in parts of the county during the early part of the week. Total rainfall in Livingston for the past month was about one inch. Range is "greening up" in certain sections of the county; some sections still dry. Crop harvest is practically completed. Livestock are in good condition.

PHILLIPS: Continued dry weather. Temperature lower but no frost to date. Sugar beets about ready to harvest. All other crops harvested with the exception of a few third cuttings of alfalfa and corn. Livestock condition poor to good. Calves, especially, are suffering and showing effects of lack of feed. Shipments continue heavy.

PONDERA: Weather cool with no precipitation. Growing conditions good for sugar beets, and grass making some growth. Harvest on dry land completed with yields all the way from nothing to fifteen bushels per acre. Most crops on irrigated land harvested with yields somewhat lighter than normal. Condition of livestock generally fair. Some forced liquidation, but movement to market rather light. Growth of grass since recent rains will relieve feed situation considerably.

PRAIRIE: Weather has been cooler. No precipitation. No crop. Thistles drying up and turning brown, greatly restricting the hay production in the county. Very little winter wheat will be planted as the ground is very dry and seed is very scarce. Shipping is expected to start on lambs and ewes in the near future. Cattle-men are preparing to cut herds to the size of the available hay supply.

RICHLAND: Warm weather prevailed throughout most of the week, with slight precipitation over portions of the county. Harvesting in dry land area completed. Prospects for beet crop good, in spite of the sugar beet web-worm and grasshopper damage done this spring. Harvesting of beets will be starting in about two weeks. Many livestock men in from Miles City and other parts of western Montana, coming in to locate feed for their sheep. Cattle still being moved out of the county.

ROOSEVELT: Cooler weather, but no frost reported. Corn harvest in full swing. Some seed being selected. Pastures improved over condition a month ago. Potatoes improved and farmers who abandoned hope a month ago now find a fair crop developing. Livestock moving to market in orderly manner. Many farmers working on W.P.A. road building projects.

ROSEBUD: No precipitation. Temperature higher during week. Some winter wheat being seeded in expectation of later moisture. Some inquiry for fall rye seed. None available locally. Third cutting alfalfa under irrigation ready to cut. Increased movement of cattle to market during week. Lambs mostly contracted for October delivery. Some old ewes for sale.

SHERIDAN: Above normal temperatures; light general rain. Harvest of corn continues with much good seed corn being selected from the fields. Feeder cattle and calves will begin to move to market shortly. Most ranches are holding their foundation stock. Farmers report a plentiful supply of roughage, but concentrates will be needed. 800 to 900 registered for W.P.A. work. Work on road continues; work on more dams will begin September 16. Some grasshoppers still present; also cutworm moths.

STILLWATER: Cool the greater part of the week. No precipitation for the week in Columbus, but a few showers in other parts of the county. Late crops such as sugar beets making good growth. Some third cutting of alfalfa being put up in Park City area. As a result of rainfall last week, many farmers are seeding or making preparations to seed winter wheat. Some early seeded winter wheat coming up. Livestock, generally, in fair condition. Ranges showing some improvement due to recent light rains, which also caused a weakening demand and lower local hay prices.

SWEETGRASS: Cloudy and cooler for the week; some frost reported in hills. No precipitation. Haying is about complete. Second cutting of alfalfa of good quality and piling up more tonnage than anticipated, approximately 65 to 75% of normal cutting. Sheep are coming off the reserves in fair condition. Lambs are being marketed and averaging 65 to 70 lbs. off range. Some flocks on lower ranges were turned down by buyers on account of light weight. A few sales of aged ewes for \$1.50 to \$2.00. Both cattle and sheep are still going to market.

TETON: Days mostly clear and no precipitation for the week. First killing frost Friday night of this week. Harvesting not yet completed in the irrigated sections. Considerable more cattle went to market this week with the bulk going to eastern markets.

TOOLE: Weather much cooler. Crops practically harvested. Russian thistles are extremely bad in summer fallow, but web worms are still taking thistles at a good rate. No other crops to damage this late in the year. Southern area of county has received no beneficial rains. Water getting low. Northern two-thirds in good shape. Plenty of water and new grass for this fall. Labor situation plentiful.

VALLEY: Light local showers first part of last week. Still some third cutting of alfalfa, which is scattered over the irrigated portion of the county. No fall work being done in the fields due to it being extremely dry. The moisture received is of no benefit in assisting the fall field work. Livestock shipments are gaining each week.

WHEATLAND: Some moisture in the county this week. Second cutting of hay well in advance; light crop. Lambs and cattle shipped out of county this week to market.

WYBAUX: No precipitation. Warm weather. Thistle haying in full swing. Tonnage of thistles is greater than was anticipated, therefore more cattle will be kept. Hay prices are still too high to buy. Cattle are still in good condition. Shipping of sheep will commence next week.

YELLOWSTONE: Mostly clear, warm days; cool nights; scattered showers Tuesday and Wednesday night. Winter wheat seeded generally in non-irrigated districts. A few early seeded fields now showing a good stand in northwest section. Most seeding, however, in dry ground with moisture supply much below normal. In irrigated districts, bean threshing general, with first yields reported better than expected. Beets in good condition. Farmers are cutting third crop alfalfa, which is turning out much better than usual third crops. Not much change in livestock situation. Range grass showing a little growth in some districts, but winter feed situation still remains the same.

MADISON - JEFFERSON: Several local showers occurred in the counties and especially in southern Madison County during the forepart of the week. The last half of the week has been fair, with warm days and cool nights. There has been a trace of frost in several places, but not serious enough to kill growing plants. Crop conditions continued very favorable throughout the week. Although soaking rains are badly needed in the winter wheat areas, some of the early planted grain has started to grow. The past three warm days have greatly helped the ripening of late grains and aided with haying and threshing. There has been some growth of fall grass. Large numbers of grasshoppers have been reported to be laying eggs in alfalfa fields in at least one foothill area. Generally the livestock condition is favorable throughout both counties, with the fall growth of grass partially overcoming the damage to the range caused by grasshoppers in some districts earlier in the season.

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Helena, Montana,
September 16, 1936.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Weather Bureau — Bureau of Agricultural Economics

REPORT OF WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS IN MONTANA
For the Week Ending Tuesday, September 22, 1936.

Issued jointly by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates and the Weather Bureau.
Offices: Fourth Floor, Federal Office Building, Helena, Montana.

The week ending September 22nd was marked by clear skies and a wide range of temperatures varying from freezing, with killing frosts over all except the southeastern portion of the State during the first few days of the week, to record-breaking high temperatures at many points during the closing days.

The killing frosts which arrived at about normal dates in the western two-thirds and extreme northeastern portion of the State over the period of the 15th to 17th have ended the growing season for most crops. Harvests of such crops as potatoes, beans and third crops of alfalfa are now under way, and farmers are preparing for harvests of such crops as sugar beets and apples. Soil moisture conditions continue to be discouraging, especially in some eastern portions of the State that have been missed entirely by September rains. Seeding of winter wheat and rye, on the other hand, has continued with growers hoping for the fall rains that will be necessary for germination and fall growth of these grains.

Pastures and range feed have been freshened a little in scattered localities in the western half of the State, but on the whole are the poorest for this season of the year that Montana stockmen have experienced. Livestock marketings have continued along the line of balancing number as against short winter feed supplies and high prices of hay and other feeds. The weather has been favorable in helping stockmen make an orderly movement of stock to market and market prices have shown more firmness than was hoped for earlier. This is quite noticeable in case of old ewes, prices of which have been better than indicated before the fall sheep movement started. However, there are still large numbers of sheep to come in from the summer feeding areas.

Weekly Temperature and Precipitation Data

	Temperature		Total Precipitation		Sunshine
	Highest	Lowest	This Week.	Since Apr. 1.	Percent of Possible
Billings	89	32	0	5.66	*
Bozeman	85	27	0	6.46	*
Cut Bank	84	28	0	9.09	*
Glasgow	95	24	0	4.88	*
Glendive	92	32	0	6.11	*
Great Falls	89	28	0	5.32	*
Havre	94	26	0	4.15	88
HELENA	87	29	0	6.18	93
Kalispell	86	28	0	5.38	76
Lewistown	88	23	0	7.67	*
Malta	93	26	0	4.06	*
Miles City	92	36	0	3.18	84
Missoula	90	30	0	6.02	82
Poplar	91	27	0	5.81	*

*No data.

Series 1936, No. 25.
Helena, Montana,
September 23, 1936.

W. E. Maughan, Weather Bureau.
Jay G. Diamond, Division of Crop and Livestock
Estimates.

The Following County Summaries of Crop Conditions for the Week Ending Sept. 19, 1936, are furnished through the courtesy of Director J. C. Taylor, Montana State Extension Service.

BEAVERHEAD: Heavy rains throughout Beaverhead Valley first part of week; snow in mountains; light skiff of snow in some lower sections of the county; nights colder with heavy frosts; Thursday and Friday warmer. Wind and rain interrupted threshing in the Dillon area. Probably a small loss of potatoes due to heavy frosts; potatoes being dug. Several shipments of lambs made; few feeder lamb buyers still here; most lambs contracted. Livestock in good condition.

BIG HORN: Weather conditions remain dry and warm and no precipitation. Killing frosts occurred two nights during the early part of the week. Third cutting of alfalfa nearly all in stack. Beet harvest to begin in a week or ten days. Livestock going to market by increasing numbers as stockmen are giving up hope of fall rains and new grass. Feed prices too high for extensive feeding.

BLAINE: No precipitation. Clear, sunshiny days prevailed most of the week, and a very heavy frost Wednesday night completely damaged all gardens in the county. Threshing in the irrigated district is well under way. The beet harvest started on Thursday. It is expected that the Sugar Mill will begin slicing on Monday. Third cutting of alfalfa about completed with very good yields reported. Livestock still continues to move to market in large volume, also considerable stock shipped out to other areas for wintering purposes.

CASCADE: Slight precipitation Sunday of last week did some good to range grasses, but was insufficient to be of any value to winter wheat. A shower the forepart of last week, which covered a part of the Fife area, supplied enough moisture to sprout the winter wheat in that section. Most of the farmers have completed winter wheat seeding, which came up in good shape, but additional rain will be necessary to insure survival throughout the winter. Harvesting of potatoes and sugar beets is well under way, with good yields reported.

Livestock are moving to market rapidly, and numbers are nearly down to the point where the feed supplies will be adequate. Very few cattle are being shipped to outside points for feeding with the expectation that they will be returned in the spring; likewise, very little coarse feed such as hay and other roughage is being shipped into the county thus far.

CHOUTEAU: The slow drizzle of rain Sunday did not improve general conditions of soil for fall seeding. Light frosts on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Most farmers are delaying fall seeding operations, hoping for additional moisture for germination. Farmers and stockmen in general have reduced their livestock down to foundation stock or milk cows. Feed supplies are not adequate for the remaining stock. Considerable shipping will be necessary this fall.

CUSTER & POWDER RIVER: Continued decline in temperature, but no frost. Harvest of vegetable and forage crops under irrigation being rapidly completed to avoid frost damage. Sugar beet digging will not begin for 10 days or more. A few showers were favorable to further thistle growth on dry land, where thistles are being cut for feed. The supply will be very short. The last of the cattle are moving now. Recent showers have been too light to start grass, and stock on the trail are being fed shipped-in hay. Horses are showing the effects of short range feed. Lambs are being delivered and are weighing light. Very few sixty pound lambs. Sheepmen offering five and six year old ewes for sale, but demand is poor.

DANIELS: No precipitation. Frost last three nights. Farmers harvesting thistle hay now that grain harvesting is completed. Many ranchers shipping livestock to market. Larger stockmen shipping in hay and concentrates.

FAWSON: Rain early in the week over portion of county, and frost during this period destroyed many of the tender garden plants remaining. No field work going on. Shipment of stock has increased considerably, with several hundred cattle moving out during the week. Growers have about made decisions on numbers to be carried and balance of month will see bulk of drouth movement. Many scattered growers have sufficient feed to hold all but normal marketings. Condition of stock usually good. Sheep have not started moving, but will begin in the near future.

FLATHEAD: Killing frosts Wednesday and Thursday nights. No precipitation. Third cutting of alfalfa hay now being put in. Potato vines all frozen down. Some fall plowing and fall soil preparation being done. Seeding of winter wheat progressing slowly. Many waiting for more rain. Pastures and ranges greening up a little from the last rain. Livestock condition good.

GALLATIN: Frost forepart of week. Higher temperatures latter part of week. No precipitation. Seeding fall grain continues and some of the earlier planted fields are showing fair germination. Fall plowing continues. Water being turned in some of the irrigation ditches, which have been dry most of the season. Cattle now being shipped in for the winter from eastern part of State.

GARFIELD - PETROLEUM: No precipitation. General growing conditions fair. Crop conditions same as previously reported. Livestock movement continuing to market and to feed.

(Continued on Page 2.)

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GALLATIN: Frost forepart of week. Higher temperatures latter part of week. No precipitation. Seeding fall grain continues and some of the earlier planted fields are showing fair germination. Fall plowing continues. Water being turned in some of the irrigation ditches, which have been dry most of the season. Cattle now being shipped in for the winter from eastern part of State.

GARFIELD - PETROLEUM: No precipitation. General growing conditions fair. Crop conditions same as previously reported. Livestock movement continuing to market and to feed.

(Continued on Page 2.)

GLACIER: Killing frosts; warm days; no wind; no precipitation. A little late haying and shock threshing now being done. Summerfallow being worked to get rid of Russian thistles. Heavy movement of cattle and sheep to market.

HILL: Practically no moisture during the past week. Seeding of winter wheat practically completed. Some winter wheat up in exceptionally fine shape. Moisture needed to continue growth. Ranges have improved slightly due to late fall rains. Movement of livestock out of the territory continues.

JUDITH BASIN: Night temperature very low; in fact, almost to the freezing point at times during the last week. General growing conditions fair, but moisture getting short again. Most of the winter wheat which has been planted is up and looking good; however, the moisture conditions are becoming serious and those who have not seeded to date are waiting for additional moisture. Grass condition on the range is considerably improved over a month ago, however, the rains which occurred a couple of weeks ago will not materially increase the number of livestock that can be carried through the winter.

LAKE: Frost hit all parts of the valley Tuesday, killing potatoes, corn, and garden vegetables. Beet harvest to start next week. Seeding being done generally, but soil moisture low. Livestock in good condition.

MADISON - JEFFERSON: Heavy rains last Sunday, with snow on higher mountains, brought killing frost which damaged the more tender vegetation on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights. Clear days have caused the temperatures to rise again and improve growing conditions. The heavy rain again delayed harvesting and threshing of grain, and the stacking of second and third cuttings of alfalfa. Warm weather the last half of the week has again made harvesting conditions almost ideal. Range condition shows improvement. Livestock conditions remain generally favorable throughout most of the area. A few cars of livestock were received from the drouth areas during the past week. Stockmen are busy moving or preparing to move from summer range to shipping points for fall pasture.

MISSOULA: Cold and stormy first of week. Small amount of precipitation. First general killing frost middle of week. Bright and warm last of week. Threshing practically completed throughout county. There is still some third crop alfalfa to be cut. Potato digging has started. Fair to good yields reported. Sugar beet harvest will start next week. Upper ranges dry. Bottom pastures making new growth. Livestock in fair to good condition.

MUSSELSHELL - GOLDEN VALLEY: Slight precipitation during week; killing frosts and much cooler weather. Some winter wheat being seeded, but acreage far below normal. Range is greening up considerably since the rains.

PHILLIPS: Continued dry weather. Heavy frost Tuesday night and low temperature for the week. Sugar beet harvest beginning in Dodson and Wagner areas. All other crops harvested, with the exception of corn and third cuttings of alfalfa. Harvesting of these latter crops is under way. Livestock condition poor to good. Calves especially are suffering and showing effects of lack of feed. Shipments continue heavy.

PONDERA: Light precipitation forepart of the week. Weather cool, with first killing frost Sunday night. Threshing in irrigated districts nearly completed. Supply of oats and barley small due to both reduced acreage and low yields. Sugar beet harvest just started and will be in full swing next week. Not much change since last week in range conditions. Conditions of livestock fair. Large numbers turned in on stubble fields, where late growth of Russian thistles is producing considerable feed.

PARK: A heavy frost was received the early part of the week, destroying garden crops and in many cases the third cutting of alfalfa. Harvest practically completed. Livestock in good condition. Heavy shipments of lambs were made the past week. Sufficient labor.

PRAIRIE: About three-tenths of an inch precipitation fell on Monday. Light frost on the 15th. No crops in Prairie County. A considerable proportion of the livestock of the county has already been moved through regular market channels. The regular fall shipments will probably start around the first of October.

RICHLAND: .40 inch precipitation fell during the forepart of week, with the remainder of the week cool and cloudy. Frost over most of the country during past week. Beet farmers preparing for harvest, with almost normal yields expected. 96 carloads of cattle have been shipped from the county this summer and fall, 8 carloads of hogs, 10 carloads of sheep, and 12 carloads of horses. More livestock being moved all the time.

ROOSEVELT: A light rain fell early in the week. Freezing temperatures that killed all garden stuff and green corn were recorded September 16. This was the first killing frost of the season. Little change in crop conditions. Livestock moving to market in greater volume than earlier.

SANDERS: Precipitation .46 inch. Average maximum temperature 64, minimum 34.

Generally clear, with warm days and frosty nights. Killing frosts over entire county. Grain threshing completed, with exception of few scattered jobs. Yields normal or above. Alfalfa and clover seed being harvested, with low yields. Potatoes being harvested, with general good yields. Livestock in good condition. Stock coming in from mountain range in good shape, with good percentage in butcher shape being shipped to market. Low range quite short and dry for winter feed. Good supply of hay and grain for winter feed.

SHERIDAN: Dry; first killing frost; strong winds resulting in some soil blowing.

Most corn out and in the shock or stack. The long frost-free fall has given ample time for saving much of the thistles for feed. No important movement of livestock to market has begun as yet, but will start in four to six weeks. Calves in general will be disposed of.

STILLWATER: Clear and cool greater part of week, with one shower at Columbus.

Frost three nights of past week froze garden produce, potato vines, and some third cutting alfalfa. Threshing in irrigated section still in progress. Fair yields of beans reported. Third cutting of alfalfa being put up. Hoppers are practically all gone. Hay prices declining. Livestock in fair condition. Recent rains have started grass to some extent. Stock shipments on decrease.

SWEETGRASS: Weather conditions have been cool and cloudy, with frost and a freezing

that finished all perishable crops. No precipitation. The second cutting of alfalfa is all up. The frost forced cutting of all third crop alfalfa that was worth harvesting. Livestock is being marketed normally as they come in from the range. Some local buying of cattle, but mostly being shipped to market. Lambs mostly being shipped to market or delivered on contracts. A few instances of refusal to accept on account of shortage of weight, but generally are accepted from five to eight pounds per head under normal weight due to season. Ready market for aged ewes for feeders. Good local demand for two to six year old ewes and replacement prospects.

VALLEY: No precipitation the past week. Much cooler weather and a killing frost

the past week. Sugar beet harvest is to start within a few days. A few beginning to harvest potatoes at this time. No change in livestock conditions. Range conditions are but very little better than they were a month ago. No labor needed.

WHEATLAND: Weather cooler this week. No moisture. Second cutting of hay light in this county, almost completed. Some livestock shipments from county this week.

WIBAUX: No precipitation. Cooler weather with frost two nights. There will be no fall planting of winter wheat or rye because of dry conditions. Sheep marketing commencing next week. About 50% of sheep will be shipped out. Cattle marketing continues gradually. Remaining livestock still in fair condition.

YELLOWSTONE: Light rain Monday. Balance of week clear and cool. Precipitation .29 inch. Seeding of winter wheat still under way in non-irrigated districts. About 50% of the normal acreage seeded. Shortage of top soil moisture serious in all districts. Early sown winter wheat showing a spotted stand. Irrigated districts beet crop in good condition. Sugar company plans to start receiving beets September 29. No change in the livestock situation.

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Helena, Montana.
September 23, 1936.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Weather Bureau—Bureau of Agricultural Economics

REPORT OF WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS IN MONTANA
For the Week Ending Tuesday, September 29, 1936.

Issued jointly by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates and the Weather Bureau.
Offices: Fourth Floor, Federal Office Building, Helena, Montana.

The average temperatures during the week were slightly below normal over all sections except the southwest, where the range was from normal to slightly above. Record breaking high temperatures prevailed generally over the north-central part of the State during the first few days, and lower temperatures with cool days and cold nights were the rule during the latter part of the week covered in this report. Additional killing frosts have occurred over the southwest and northeast, with the Miles City area being the only section that has not experienced killing frosts up to September 29. Unsettled rainy weather on the 25th and 26th brought good showers over all sections with the exception of the northeastern, where only light amounts were received.

Soil moisture conditions continued unfavorable for the seeding of winter wheat and rye in the southeastern portion of the State. The high temperatures in the north-central part were accompanied with high winds which further depleted top soil moisture. Some soil blowing was reported in the eastern area of the State. A heavy curtailment in fall seedings is expected in this and other areas where similar conditions exist. A shortage of seed in many sections will also tend to hold down the acreage. Seeding west of the Divide, in the central third, and in the northeastern parts of the State, where moisture conditions were more favorable, is practically completed. Stands of early seeded grains are reported to range from very uneven to good, with the average better than a year ago.

The work program of the stockman and the farmer during the past week has been a continuation of the previous week. Harvesting of late cuttings of alfalfa, and coarse roughage feeds, was in progress in all sections of the eastern two-thirds of the State. West of the Divide, the third cuttings of excellent hay was going into the stack. The beet harvest is under way in all areas except the Billings and Sidney factory areas. In spite of the thinner stands reported earlier in the season, the yields are reported to be good as the larger sizes of the individual beets tend to be a compensating factor. The potato harvest is expected to be in full swing during the coming week. Bean threshing is practically completed, while threshing of other grain crops is complete except in those areas where recent rains retarded this operation, and on a few scattered irrigated farms. Combining of some late flax is reported from Sheridan County.

Grass on ranges and pastures has been slightly revived by the recent rains; however, the frost ended any further progress. Livestock movement has been orderly as the stock is being brought off the ranges. Movement from drouth stricken areas continues to be stimulated by a shortage of native feeds generally and a water shortage in isolated areas. Cattle numbers for the most part have been reduced to the proportionate feed supply accommodations, while reductions of sheep are still continuing.

This is the 26th issue of the 1936 series of "Weather and Crop Conditions Reports" which, during the growing season were issued jointly by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates and the Weather Bureau. As the growing season is practically over, this will be the final report of this series for this year. Publication of these reports will again be resumed early in April of 1937.

Weekly Temperature and Precipitation Data

	Temperature		Total Precipitation		Sunshine
	Highest	Lowest	This Week.	Since Apr. 1	Percent of Possible
Billings	83	35	0.74	6.46	*
Bozeman	79	31	0.52	6.98	*
Cut Bank	74	30	0.35	9.44	*
Glasgow	81	23	T	4.88	*
Glendive	82	33	0.62	6.13	*
Great Falls	81	29	0.48	5.80	*
Havre	82	30	0.01	4.16	78
HELENA	78	31	0.26	6.44	83
Kalispell	74	30	0.02	5.40	74
Lewistown	81	27	0.27	7.94	*
Malta	80	30	T	4.06	*
Miles City	82	34	0.38	3.56	68
Missoula	80	36	0.14	6.16	86
Poplar	80	30	0.05	5.86	*

*No data.

Series 1936, No. 26.
Helena, Montana.
September 30, 1936.

W. E. Maughan, Weather Bureau.
Jay G. Diamond, Division of Crop and Livestock
Estimates.

The Following County Summaries of Crop Conditions for the Week Ending Sept. 26, 1936, are furnished through the courtesy of Director J. C. Taylor, Montana State Extension Service.

BEAVERHEAD: Weather fair, with days warm. Harvesting nearing completion. Some feed still for sale. General yields good. Heavy shipments of lambs out of county with bulk of lambs lighter than last year. Few cows and steers sold to date. Labor normal.

BIG HORN: A good rain Friday, accompanied by cooler weather. Conditions materially improved in the county. Seeding of winter wheat is being rushed and beet growers are busy in preparation for beet digging which is expected to start next week or about the first of October. In-shipments of feeds and cottonseed cake stimulated, following announcement of freight rate reductions. Every pound of feed is being salvaged in the county. Regular shipments of cattle are being made by stockmen. Warmer weather will start the grass and improve range conditions.

BLAINE: No precipitation. Threshing of small grains in the Milk River Valley practically completed. Sugar beet harvest in full swing, with fair yields reported. Potato harvest about half completed, with fair to good yields reported from all sections of the valley. The bulk of the livestock that will be disposed of has now been moved to market. Some stock was shipped this past week to winter feed. Lambs are being sorted, some of them going to market. Arrangements are being made for feeding lambs in the Milk River Valley.

CARBON: Heavy rain most of the day Friday the 25th. A very late crop of third cutting hay is being harvested in part of the Clarks Fork Valley. Threshing of beans in full swing. Preparations being made for starting the beet harvest about October 1st. All grain threshing has been completed. Shipments of cattle continue to move from the county to the Billings market. Preparations are being made to ship a train load of cattle to Chicago the first of the week by stockmen in the Luther and Roscoe sections. This will be about the last big shipment of cattle from the county.

CASCADE: The .48 inch of precipitation early Friday morning materially improved the outlook for winter wheat. Winter wheat seeded early and which is now up will be benefitted most. Good summer fallow will now have sufficient moisture to justify seeding. Range conditions will also be improved as a result of this rain. The second killing frost of the season was Friday night and this frost checked the growth of garden vegetables and potatoes and will result in more rapid progress in potato harvesting as heavy vines have been somewhat of a nuisance. Threshing on irrigated farms is nearly completed, with only fair yields reported. Livestock are in fair condition. Labor normal.

CHOUTEAU: There was a heavy shower Thursday evening, covering the southern part of the county, which may do much harm to the winter wheat seeded. Moisture still deficient for fall seeding in other parts of the county. Livestock shipments continue to be heavy and the number of animals on the farm is fast approaching the number to be wintered. Very few shipped out for feeding purposes, and it is expected that large amounts of hay and other feeds will be shipped into the county. Practically all fall and winter pasture has been eaten or destroyed by insects. Livestock men realize that it will probably be a straight feeding period from now until spring for all livestock that they plan to keep over.

CUSTER - POWDER RIVER: Much cooler. Killing frosts reported in some areas, which brought the growing season to an end. Practically all late forage crops are in. Sugar beet harvest will begin soon. Some alfalfa seed produced under regular irrigation; seed of good quality but total supply will be insignificant compared to a normal crop. No grain seeding in dry land areas because of no soil moisture and no available local supply of seed. Sheep and lamb movement in full swing. Sheepmen disposing of five and six year old ewes. Some horse ranchers in south country planning to move out as range conditions are too poor for horses to winter.

DANIELS: No precipitation. High winds. Putting up thistles for hay is chief job of livestock owners at present. Most farmers harvested enough grain for seed next year, but many will have to sell it for living expenses. Few are seeding fall rye. Steady movement of livestock to market. Both horse and cattle buyers are in the county.

DAWSON: Temperature seasonal throughout week, with considerable wind during portion of the period and only a trace of precipitation. No active field work. Ground moisture is lacking and fall seeding of wheat or rye is practically negligible. Returns from crops, including both harvested grains and feeds, have been practically nothing this season; only a few scattered places doing any harvesting and then primarily for next year's seed. Feed situation is less favorable this fall than for a considerable period. The severe winter just past used much reserve roughage, so operators were forced to sell down sharply or winter in other areas. Marketing of stock is going forward briskly at this time, with a considerable number yet to move. Lambs have only started moving.

FALLON - CARTER: No precipitation. High winds during the week and severe dust storms. Growing conditions same as previous. Weather warm most of the week with light frosts two nights. Very little feed has been put up. A large percentage of the stock in this territory removed; most of it sold. For the last month, most stock has been going to market at higher prices than during the earlier part of the summer.

(Continued on Page 2.)

FLATHEAD: Nights stay cold. No precipitation. Growing conditions for fall grain and hay are fair. Some early planted fall grains making satisfactory growth. Third cutting of alfalfa now being put up. Potato harvest not yet in progress. Livestock O.K. Many farmers have not yet planted winter wheat because of a lack of moisture.

GALLATIN: Warm and clear forepart of week. Cooler, cloudy, with some precipitation latter part. Winter wheat showing uneven germination, although the average is somewhat better than in 1935. Some third cutting alfalfa still remains to be stacked. Curing is slow. Average amount of fall seed bed preparation under way, and some are leveling for better irrigation. Doubtful if much more winter wheat is seeded, and the amount is still considerably under normal. Some lamb sales continue and interest is being shown in range calves which are now being weaned.

GARFIELD - PETROLEUM: No precipitation; high winds and temperatures above average during the past week. Frosts have generally occurred throughout the area. The central portion of Garfield and Petroleum have shown considerable improvement in grass growth, which has provided some feed of a temporary nature. Hay and feeds moving into the country, but the price is largely too high except for working horses and milk cows. Sheep movement under way; will amount to about 40%. Large portion of cattle to be shipped out have been moved.

GLACIER: Wide variety of weather during week; two days of wind moved much dust. Heavy showers. High temperature first of week; cold last part, with killing frosts. A little hail and snow. Farmers completing odds and ends of getting ready for winter. Movement of livestock to market continues.

HILL: Approximately 75% of the winter wheat has been seeded. Some winter wheat is up in exceptionally fine shape. Moisture is deficient to complete the fall growth of winter wheat. Ranges are holding their own. Movement of livestock out of the territory is continuing. A surplus of labor.

JUDITH BASIN: Precipitation very slight. Moisture conditions in the soil getting very low again. Temperature has been changeable, ranging from almost freezing to very warm. Winter wheat seeding is being continued, but conditions do not look so very promising, since the soil moisture has been rapidly depleted the last few days by hot winds. Range conditions not as favorable as they were a week ago. The livestock shipping is still going on; loadings at practically every point in the county being made this week and will be made next week.

LAKE: Warm, clear weather prevailed in the county this week so that working conditions were ideal for haying, beet harvest, plowing and seeding, which is going on at a rapid pace. A third crop of excellent hay is going into the stack. Beet harvest has started this week and yields are very satisfactory. Several fields of early seeded fall wheat are showing excellent stands. Livestock marketing is going on with a normal amount being shipped. Stock in good condition. Several carloads of cattle and sheep are being purchased outside the county for feeding during the winter.

LEWIS & CLARK - BROADWATER: Moisture, none. Threshing is nearing completion in irrigated areas of both Broadwater and Lewis & Clark counties. Potato harvest under way. Sugar beet harvesting is starting in Broadwater County. Considerable livestock moving out of northern Lewis & Clark County, due to short feed situation. Considerable cottonseed cake will be shipped into northern Lewis & Clark for wintering livestock.

MAFISON - JEFFERSON: Warm, fair weather prevailed during the week, with the exception of Friday which was cold and blustery, threatening snow. Warm days made growing conditions favorable, though there is a need for additional moisture. Crop conditions were generally favorable throughout the week. The warm, dry weather gave farmers their best opportunity this fall for threshing, and several were able to finish. There remains, however, a large amount of grain and some peas to be threshed. In most cases, yields of grain on irrigated land have been satisfactory, but on the dry land many fields failed to measure up to expectations because of grasshopper damage and shriveled kernels. Stockmen are busy with their fall work. A large number of sheep have been brought off the summer range and the lambs shipped out. Many cattlemen are moving their feeders to shipping points and preparing to bring the remaining stock out to fall feed. An acute shortage of labor exists in some sections, especially Silver Star and Twin Bridges. Men are needed for potato harvest and to help with the cattle roundup.

MISSOULA: Warm and bright first of week; cooler, cloudy and some rain last of week. Second general killing frost last of week. Seeding of winter wheat started, but not general due to dry soil. Potato and sugar beet harvest starting. Few fields third crop alfalfa yet to be cut if not damaged too much by frost. Hay supplies plentiful for winter feeding. County can handle more cattle for fall pasture and winter feed.

PHILLIPS: Mild weather; no frost, no rain. Windy early part of week. No fall seeding of rye or wheat on account of lack of moisture. Sugar beet crop only one left for harvest. Some being dug at Strater, Wagner, and Dodson. No reports of yields to date. Movement of stock to market continues. About 70% of livestock shipped out. Wells and water holes going dry. Very little hay being bought.

(Continued on Page 3.)

PONDERA: Weather clear and fairly warm. Heavy frost latter part of week. Practically all shocked grain threshing completed this week on irrigated farms. Beet pulling in full swing. Due to unusual growing conditions, beet harvest indicates a higher tonnage per acre than first reported, due to larger sizes of beets. Beet tops have sold from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per acre to livestock men for supplement and balancing feed with straw and cake. Summer pastures have been revived by showers in spotted areas throughout the county. No barley or oat feed for sale, but small surplus of hay is available to the extent of approximately 300 or 400 tons. Intermittent movement of livestock to market; chiefly held for late October and November markets. Some forced liquidation on account of lack of water. Feed reserves appear to be sufficient to carry all livestock numbers at the present data throughout the winter. Livestock has been moved due to high price of feeds.

PRAIRIE: Maximum temperature over 90 degrees the first part of the week. Latter part of week has been cooler, with a light drizzle on Friday. No crops. Fall movement of cattle and sheep has started, which will take most of the cattle in Prairie County and also many sheep. Livestock has been doing better, with the advent of cooler weather.

RICHLAND: Most of week warm, with cooler weather latter part of week. Dryland farmers continuing to salvage what feed possible in coulees. The harvesting of beets is expected to get under way by the first of next week. It is anticipated that the tonnage for this year will be practically the same as that of last year despite the fact that some 2000 acres of beets were abandoned in the valley early this spring and summer due to grasshoppers and blister beetles. Some livestock continuing to move to market. The bulk of the stock has already been shipped out.

ROOSEVELT: No precipitation. Little change in farm conditions during week. Little field work being attempted. Some livestock moving to market.

ROSEBUD: Temperatures above normal for this time of year, following last week's frost. General rain last of week, but not sufficient to insure good germination of winter wheat and rye. All crops, including late planted forage crops, harvested except sugar beets. Beet harvest expected to start next week. Orderly movement of cattle and sheep into market channels continued through the week. Movement expected to continue for some time. Some calves and old ewes will be marketed in late October.

SANDERS: Generally warm days and frosty nights. Winter wheat coming up and showing good stand on summer fallow. All field crops harvested. Truck crops being harvested with generally good yields. Livestock in good condition. Lambs mostly marketed. Cattle being brought in from high range and shipments of feeder and fat stuff going to market.

SHERIDAN: Continued dry. Most crops harvested, but some late flax combined. Corn picking for seed in progress on a few farms. First movement of livestock to market. Cattle in fair condition. Peak of movement will be within next four or six weeks.

STILLWATER: Clear and warm first part of week. Slow, steady snow over county, starting Friday morning. Total precipitation at Columbus .76. Should be of benefit to grass and winter wheat. Threshing of irrigated crops in county pretty well completed. Bean harvest in Park City area about completed, with yields of 16 to 24 sacks per acre being reported. Beet crop fair to good, with preparations being made for harvest. Rain benefitted winter wheat seedings. Condition of stock fair to good in spite of shortage of grass. Several larger operators shipping sheep out for winter this week. Marketing of lambs starting.

SWEETGRASS: Second cutting of alfalfa is harvested. Frost has ended growing season of crops. Livestock is being marketed normally as they come in from the range. Some local buying of cattle, but mostly being shipped to market. All livestock down from Forest Reserves. Demand for two to six year old ewes for replacement prospects.

TETON: Temperatures have been exceedingly cool, with nice rain Thursday night, of .33-inch. Reports that in the northern part of the county around Pendroy precipitation was .62 inch. Terrific wind Tuesday caused some soil drifting. Threshing is completed with the exception of some flax. Yields in the county have been varying all the way from nothing to 12 bushels, the latter being in a few isolated places. It looks as though this county will have some wheat in excess of seed requirements, but the 1936 crop was the smallest one produced in this county in late years. Hay practically all sold. Ranchers starting to deliver their lambs which were sold on contract. Cattle being moved to market in large numbers.

VALLEY: No precipitation the past week. Several killing frosts. Sugar beet harvest in full swing in Hinsdale-Beaverton area. Yields and sugar content is running pretty high. Very small amount of winter rye and winter wheat being seeded. Third cutting of alfalfa completed. Livestock in fair condition. Calves are showing effects of drouth and lack of feed.

WHEATLAND: Weather quite cold all week, with frosts. Some rain in central portion of county this week. Second cutting of alfalfa finished. Some livestock shipments from county reported.

WIBAUX: Cold, freezing weather latter part of week; warm weather during forepart. No precipitation. Approximately 50 per cent of cattle have been shipped out so far. Additional shipments will depend on weather conditions and price of hay and concentrates. Livestock in fairly good condition. About 20% of the horses have been shipped and 25 per cent of the sheep.

